

Sudan to revive coalition partnership

KHARTOUM (R) — The two main partners in Sudan's outgoing coalition government said on Sunday they would resurrect the alliance after failing to broaden it. Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, head of the Umma Party, and Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), said in a joint statement differences between Sudan's political groups made it impossible to form a new national unity government. "Certain parties have certain reservations on others, and each party is attempting to form a new political scene," the statement said. Egypt's Middle East News Agency said in a report from Khartoum that Mr. Mahdi would address parliament on Monday and a new Sudanese cabinet would be formed within two days. The DUP pulled out of the ruling coalition on Aug. 22 in protest against Umma winning a seat formerly held by DUP on the Supreme Council, a five-member collective presidency. Umma and DUP cabinet ministers have continued in office pending the formation of a new government. The parties' statement said Mr. Mahdi and Mr. Mirghani would make some changes in the outgoing cabinet.

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Rifai congratulates new Tunisian premier

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Sunday sent a cable of congratulations to the newly-appointed Tunisian prime minister, Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, on his appointment. Mr. Rifai also expressed hope that brotherly relations between Jordan and Tunisia would continue to develop progressively to serve the interests of both countries and the Arab Nation.

Kuwait says summit agenda is open

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti minister said on Sunday an Arab summit due to be held in Amman next month would discuss any issue raised by attending heads of state. The minister of state for cabinet affairs, Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid, told reporters after the weekly cabinet meeting the summit agenda would treat all Arab issues in view of their intertwining nature. King Hussein toured Gulf Arab states last week and won agreement to broaden the agenda beyond the Iran-Iraq war.

Police seal Lhasa roads and monasteries

LHASA (R) — Soldiers and police tightened their grip on the Tibetan capital Lhasa on Sunday, blocking roads and sealing off monasteries after as many as 19 people were reported to have been killed in a riot on Thursday against Chinese rule. The official death toll has been put at six but reliable Tibetan sources said up to nine demonstrators and 10 policemen had died. The dead demonstrators included three Buddhist monks, they said (See earlier story on page 8).

Lebanese deputy dies

BEIRUT (R) — A Christian member of the Lebanese parliament, retired army Colonel Fuad Lahoud, died on Sunday after a long illness. Parliamentary sources said. He was 70. Mr. Lahoud, chairman of the parliamentary defence committee, was elected in 1972. No elections have been held since then because of the civil war which broke out in 1975. Mr. Lahoud was a member of the Christian hardline National Liberal party of late President Camille Chamoun. His death brings to 20 the number of seats vacant in the 99-seat single chamber legislature.

Reagan sends envoy to Turkey

ANKARA (R) — U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington arrived in Ankara on Sunday for talks that will include a massive water diversion project for Gulf states. Officials said Mr. Herrington was carrying a message for Prime Minister Turgut Ozal from President Ronald Reagan, but he declined to reveal the contents. He said in a brief arrival speech that he would discuss with Mr. Ozal and other officials the Iran-Iraq war, bilateral relations and a Turkish pipeline project to send water to Gulf countries. The project, named the Peace Water Pipeline by Mr. Ozal's government, foresees the annual diversion of two billion cubic metres of water to Middle East and Gulf countries from two rivers in southern Turkey.

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**President Zia Ul Haq begins two-day state visit
King calls on Pakistan to use its good ties with Iran to end Gulf war**

Pakistani leader voices support for peace conference and adherence to his country's peaceful nuclear plans

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday called on Pakistan to use its good offices to convince Iran to positively respond to international peace efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war by accepting U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Speaking at a dinner he hosted in honour of Pakistani President General Zia Ul Haq and his wife, King Hussein appealed to Islamabad to "give this matter (the Iran-Iraq war) the utmost priority and renew efforts with Tehran to accept the July 20 resolution as the basis for a historical reconciliation process."

"While Iraq has done its utmost to leave the door to peace open, our brothers in Tehran have, nevertheless, closed all avenues to peace and did not heed the will of Allah and Muslims," he said.

The continuation and escalation of the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war is "permitting foreign powers to intervene in an affair which should have been con-

Iraqi press accuses Moscow of stalling over U.N. resolution

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's official press accused Moscow on Sunday of stalling over enforcement of July's U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 ordering a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

"It is really strange to see some parties try to delay a U.N. Security Council step to implement the second phase of its resolution on the Gulf war," said Al Thawra, newspaper of the ruling Baath Party, in a clear reference to the Soviet Union.

The government newspaper Al Jumhuriya said Baghdad rejected any attempt to modify the resolution, which envisages sanctions against either party rejecting it.

"Iraq has accepted the resolution as a whole and it considers any attempt to change it as a conspiracy against the resolution itself, aimed at encouraging Iran's aggressive rulers to avoid its implementation," Al Jumhuriya said.

Iraq has turned down a Soviet proposal that a ceasefire should be accompanied by the simultaneous establishment of a commission to assess blame for starting the war in September 1980.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz told a news conference at the United Nations on Saturday that he regarded the suggestion as contrary to the resolution which Iraq accepted as a whole.

The first paragraph of the resolution demanded an immediate ceasefire and mutual troop withdrawals, he said. It did not refer to an inquiry commission until the sixth paragraph.

The Defence Ministry news-paper Al Qadisiya, in another indirect criticism of Moscow, regretted that "some parties which ought to understand their international responsibility and put their peace slogans into practice... have acted contrary to their policy and slogans."

Al Jumhuriya urged the Security Council to implement its resolution by banning arms exports to Iran and taking "any other measure which will undermine Iran's aggressive war effort, including economic and political sanctions."

Iraq and the Soviet Union are linked by a treaty of friendship and cooperation and Moscow is one of Baghdad's main arms suppliers.

tained and resolved long time ago," His Majesty said.

Iraq, he added, "is still continuing this war, which is depleting the human and material resources of the two Muslim countries and threatening the security and stability of the whole region."

In a radio speech, Gen. Zia voiced his country's support for Jordan's efforts towards convening an international conference on the Middle East. "We support the call of the international community to convene an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all the parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on an equal footing in order to evolve a just, comprehensive and

durable settlement of the long festering problem," he said. There can be no "enduring and lasting peace in the Middle East without Israel's complete and total withdrawal from all the Arab territories illegally occupied by Israel since 1967, including the Al Quds Al Sharif, and without a restoration of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and statehood in their own homeland."

On the Iran-Iraq war, he said: "It is regrettable that our inter-ethnic quarrels and conflicts continue to divide and debilitate the Muslim Umma, thus exposing us to untold dangers of outside interference and exploitations."

On the international scene, he expressed hope that the war would soon be terminated and resolved "in a just equitable manner" and that the "Islamic World will soon wake up to the imperatives of unity in our ranks. Without unity we will never have the strength to secure justice."

On the international scene, Gen. Zia welcomed the agreement between the U.S. and the Soviet Union to scrap all in-

(Continued on page 4)

Scores of civilians killed in Iranian bombardment of Basra

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi artillery shelled the southern Iraqi city of Basra on Sunday and killed or wounded large numbers of civilians, residents said.

A military spokesman, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), gave no precise casualty figures. But he said mosques, schools and hospitals were among the buildings damaged.

Basra residents, contacted by telephone, told Reuters shells were landing on all parts of the city, including densely-populated areas. They said the bombardment started at 8 a.m. and was still continuing five hours later.

The shelling followed a warning by Tehran that it would attack military, industrial and economic targets in Baghdad and other Iraqi cities in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on centres in Iran.

A statement by Iran's war information headquarters on Saturday

urged Iraq to take refuge in four holy cities which it said would be spared.

The Iraqi spokesman said Baghdad had fulfilled a pledge to avoid bombing residential areas of Iran whereas Tehran had now said openly that it would strike at civilian targets in Iraq.

Iraq had so far refrained from using its overwhelming air superiority to attack Iranian cities, he said, but "Iraq's patience towards such violations against its peaceful citizens will not last for long."

Diplomats in Baghdad said the threats by Tehran and Baghdad aroused fears of a revival of the "war of the cities" in which thousands of civilians were killed on both sides in air, artillery and missile attacks on towns and cities.

INA quoted the Iraqi spokesman as saying "the Iranian regime committed this crime at a time when the U.N. Security Council is looking for ways to end this war and stop the bloodshed."

He was referring to international efforts to implement Security Council Resolution 598 of July 20 which called for an immediate ceasefire in the seven-year-old Gulf war.

Iraqi naval vessel in the Gulf this weekend and a Kuwaiti tanker with its American navy escort sailed safely out of the hazardous waterway.

The Reagan administration also confirmed an incident in the northern Gulf apparently involving Iranian boats in the vicinity of offshore oil platforms shared by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait but precisely what happened remained unclear.

Iraq backed down during a tense confrontation on Saturday with an American warship in another part of the Gulf, where the U.S. navy has been escorting re-registered Kuwaiti tankers since early July.

The Iranian warship's radar locked onto the U.S. vessel and upon a verbal warning from the U.S. vessel the Iranians secured the radar. "Defence Department spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Keith Schneider said. "No shots were fired."

A radar lock on a target is usually a prelude to a missile attack, but Col. Schneider described the incident as routine harassment. He would not identify either ship or say in what part of the Gulf the incident occurred.

"We considered it to be of a routine harassment nature involving a U.S. and an Iranian warship," Col. Schneider said. U.S. television identified the American ship as the Kidd.

Neither the Pentagon nor the White House would give any de-

tails about the incident in the northern Gulf.

"We're aware of some boats in the northern Gulf, presumably Iranian boats. There were Saudi patrol boats in the vicinity," White House spokesman Roman Popadiuk said.

"We are aware of no conflict,"

Gulf shipping sources said about 35 speedboats of the type Iran had used in attacks on shipping moved towards the Ras Al Khafji terminal in Saudi Arabia during Friday night. The Saudi terminal is north of Bahrain near the Kuwaiti border.

Saudi Arabia denied any of its planes had been in action or that Iranian boats had approached its waters.

Iran said on Sunday it had ended naval exercises in the northern Gulf.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi said three days of naval manoeuvres, code-named "Freedom Island," successfully tested Iran's combat power to deal with any plots in the Gulf.

The national news agency IRNA said the exercises, carried out by the Revolutionary Guards Corps were aimed at defending Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island and its Gulf oilfields.

Reports from shipping sources said Saudi jets repelled a flotilla of Iranian gunboats approaching an offshore oil platform 100

(Continued on page 4)

Thatcher pressing Reagan on Mideast

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been "bombarding" U.S. President Ronald Reagan with letters urging him to take the lead in helping to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Sunday Times reported. The weekly said Mrs. Thatcher believes the Americans "have been missing a trick" by allowing the Soviet Union to make all the running in the Middle East, and she wants Mr. Reagan to "drag the Israelis" to a Middle East peace conference. Mrs. Thatcher believes the Middle East "should be at least as high a priority of U.S. foreign policy as arms control," the report said. It said the British leader raised the issue at each of her most recent meetings with Mr. Reagan, and also with U.S. Vice-President George Bush when they met in London last Thursday. The story said a letter from Mr. Reagan about the issue arrived in London last Friday after Mrs. Thatcher urged a more aggressive approach following her meeting last month with King Hussein. The King "underlined the danger of continuing American inaction in the explosive atmosphere of the Middle East," the report said. The Sunday Times said Mrs. Thatcher's office refused to disclose details of the president's letter, beyond claiming that he agreed with her that the peace process must be kept alive.



His Majesty King Hussein and Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq at Sunday's welcome ceremony held upon the arrival of President Zia on a state visit (Petra photo)

Israel detains 5 Arabs and 2 soldiers after clashes in Haifa

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli police

said. He was not identified.

The scuffle occurred after several Arabs in the neighbourhood allegedly taunted a group of Jews and allegedly made passes at Jewish girls among them, said

police spokeswoman said.

The clashes in Haifa under-

scored a wave of Arab-Jewish violence in recent months in which two Israeli soldiers have been killed and two Israelis and several Arabs injured.

Three Israeli legislators voiced

concerns for the clashes, which came only a week after two Israeli soldiers were stabbed and beaten to death in northern Israel.

Shevach Weiss of the Labour Party urged police to "clamp down heavily to prevent a recurrence of such violence."

The Israeli Communist Party, which is supported by Arab voters, called for an urgent parliamentary debate.

Several Palestinians were in-

jured in a series of Jewish-Arab clashes in the Ramat Gan suburb of Tel Aviv this summer.

Also near Tel Aviv, two Jewish teenagers were wounded in a knifing attack in a grove by Arabs two weeks ago.

Nepalese U.N. soldier killed in SLA attack

TYRE (Agencies) — A Nepalese soldier serving with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was killed by gunfire of Israeli-allied militiamen Sunday, U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel said.

He said a patrol of the pro-

Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia made up of a tank and a half-track attempted to cross through a Nepalese checkpoint at Srobbie, 20 kilometres south east of Tyre.

The reports carried by Israel army radio and the daily news-

paper Davar said the agreement was reached at a meeting between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Nigerian counter-

part at the U.N. General Assembly in New York last week.

According to the pact, each country would open an interest office in a "friendly embassy" in each other's countries within several weeks, according to Davar, which is closely aligned with Mr. Peres' left-leaning Labour Party.

Foreign ministry spokesman Ehud Gol, reached by telephone, declined to comment on the reports.

Nigeria would be the sixth black African nation after Zaire, Liberia, Cameroon, the Ivory Coast and Togo to renew ties with Israel. Twenty-nine black African nations severed relations with Israel after a weekly cabinet meeting.

The other five countries have established full-fledged relations by opening embassies. But Nigeria, with a strong Arab-allied Muslim minority, has faced heavy pressure against a full resumption of ties with Israel, Davar said.

Despite the absence of formal ties with Israel, Nigeria has maintained extensive trade links with the Jewish state, Davar added without giving figures.

In addition, Israeli news re-

ports in June said the Israel air-

craft industries planned to open a

training centre in Nigeria. Com-

pany officials denied the reports.

Israeli officials acknowledged

Mr. Peres met Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akintemi at the U.N. but declined to confirm the report of renewed ties.

In July, Togo became the fifth

African country to restore full

relations with Israel.

Poland and Israel last year ex

Holland calls for int'l force for safe navigation in Gulf

Dutch minister hopes Amman summit will help Gulf stability

KUWAIT (AP) — Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek was quoted here Sunday as expressing his country's support for the formation of an international naval force to safeguard maritime navigation in the Gulf.

Mr. Van Den Broek said in an interview with the daily newspaper Al Qabas, however, that all foreign fleets in the Gulf are exposed to dangers in the absence of a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran.

"I am sure that a U.N.-sponsored force is the only force that can work in the Gulf without being exposed to dangers after a ceasefire is worked out," he said. "The reason is quite simple as barring cooperation of the two belligerents such fleets will be prone to great jeopardy."

The idea of an international naval force in the Gulf waters was given a fillip last month by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations. It has often been floated as a substitute for the current situation where U.S. and other Western as well as Soviet warships

protect only respective national flags against the offshoots of the Iraq-Iran war on the Gulf seas.

Holland is one of the countries contributing to an armada of some 80 warships and minesweepers that have arrived for escorting vessels against Iranian attacks or sweeping the waters of the region against mines widely planted by the Iranians.

Mr. Van Den Broek said the participation of Dutch minesweepers "should not be interpreted as bias with any of the two belligerents."

"We are rather for the protection of freedom of navigation in this waterway, where European countries have vital interests," he added.

The Gulf region provides 40-50 per cent of the oil needs of western Europe.



Hans Van Den Broek

Qabos of Oman.

The Dutch foreign minister expressed hope that Iran "will clarify" its position as soon as possible toward U.N. Security Council July 20 Resolution 598 for ending the 7-year-old Iran-Iraq war and that the council draw the necessary conclusions."

"My feeling is that the implementation of the council's resolutions should not be delayed, because any delay would automatically rob Resolution 598 of its connotations."

The Dutch minister said that his country attached extreme importance to the Arab summit scheduled for Nov. 8 in Amman. "I think that a successful summit will help maintain stability in the Gulf. Therefore, we expect a unified Arab stand to be worked out in Amman, because unified stances lead to significant political results," he said.

The emergency conference of Arab heads of state has been called for mainly to discuss a collective Arab stance vis-a-vis Iran in light of its attitude toward peace with Iraq.

He did not elaborate. The British units in the minesweeping operation have already been provided a basis for the duration of the task near Muscat by Sultan

Qabos of Oman.

Mr. Van Den Broek said that the European Community member states had "collectively asked for facilities from certain Gulf states to be utilized in minesweeping operations and protection of shipping."

He did not elaborate.

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Home news

Cabinet approves grant for Karak street repair

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet has decided to give Karak Municipality a grant of JD 40,000 to help cover the cost of repairing damage resulting from the collapse of a 30-metre long section of a street in the heart of Karak and to build a retaining wall to prevent further accidents.

The collapse, which occurred last week, was blamed by the city mayor on underground leakage of water from old pipe networks. Nothing was said, however, about the findings of a committee formed by Karak Governor Salem Al Qudah to investigate the causes of the collapse, which disrupted electricity and water services in a city district, but caused no casualties.

Mayor Abdullah Jaafreh said that he held the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) responsible for the consequences since, previously, he had drawn the authority's attention to the situation and warned of the danger.

The committee, comprised of technicians and engineers from local government departments in Karak, was set up to research the causes of the collapse and to

report its findings to the authorities. The Cabinet decision Sunday to grant Karak Municipality did not mention the findings of the committee.

The Cabinet on Sunday also announced the formation of a Jordanian delegation to take part in the meetings of the Asian Broadcasting Federation, due to open in Bangkok on Oct. 13. The delegation, the announcement said, will be led by Mr. Nasoub Al Majali, director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation. The meeting will discuss a plan of activities for the federation, according to the announcement.

The Cabinet decided to form another Jordanian delegation to conduct negotiations with the World Bank for obtaining a loan to finance new educational projects in the Kingdom. According to the Cabinet announcement the delegation, which will leave for Washington on Oct. 12, will include the secretary-general of the Ministry of Planning and the director of school buildings at the Ministry of Education.

Government training team begins gathering information

AMMAN (J.T.) — A work team formed on Sept. 18 to gather information for and assist in the implementation of a plan for training government employees embarked on its task Sunday by visiting a number of ministries and government departments.

The team first aims to conduct a comprehensive survey before establishing training programmes and organising other administrative affairs.

According to Abdulla Ulayyan, director of the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) the team is comprised of representatives from the Civil Service Commission, the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences, and the IPA.

The team has been set up according to a decision by the higher committee charged with

addressing the problem of unemployment in the Kingdom, Mr. Ulayyan said. The visits to various government departments will last nearly two months, according to the IPA director, who said that its members will subsequently be involved in working out a national programme for training personnel in public administration affairs.

After the survey is completed, a process of analysing the information and processing the results will begin; it is expected to take at least one month to complete, according to IPA sources. The team will help implement a programme for providing training to a large number of college and university graduates, prior to offering them jobs in public organisations, according to Mr. Ulayyan.

Capacity of Arab airlines to increase in coming years

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Air Carriers' Organisation (AACO) believes that Arab airlines will acquire an additional number of 50 jet aircraft from now until 1995, with Royal Jordanian, the national air carrier, receiving 16 planes, according to AACO Secretary-General Adil Dajani.

In a recent interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Dajani said that Royal Jordanian, which at the end of 1985 possessed 17 jet planes, is scheduled to own 33 jetliners by 1995.

The increase in the number of aircraft will be coupled with an increase in the number of passengers, over the next eight years, to 27 million annually, up from 18 million in 1986, or a 4.5 per cent increase, Mr. Dajani noted.

He said that the 1986-95 period will also witness an estimated seven per cent growth in transportation of cargo and other freight by Arab air carriers. By

1995, Mr. Dajani said, the total Arab air carrier fleet will consist of 301 jet aircraft, up from 251 in 1981.

Mr. Dajani, who was recently appointed AACO secretary-general, opened an AACO office in Amman, which he said, will pave the way for transferring the AACO's headquarters from Beirut to the Jordanian capital, in view of the civil strife in Lebanon.

The AACO was established by the Arab League in 1964, and since then it had been countering numerous difficulties, but, following the AACO's meeting in Sanaa last March and the opening of the Amman office, I feel like that the organisation was born anew," Mr. Dajani pointed out.

He said that the AACO was set up for the sake of safeguarding Arab airlines' interests and rights among them.

International Distinctions for Swissair and Zurich Airport

AMMAN — Swissair has been voted best airline worldwide by frequent business travellers from 52 countries. Zurich was declared the second most popular European airport among the same business community.

The poll was conducted among readers of "Business Traveller," a British publication with a high reputation among the travelling business public. The magazine first polled its readers in 1980, and Swissair has claimed first place overall in every survey carried out to date. In the latest poll, it was the airline's sheer professionalism and dependency in off-beat, inefficient cities that came in for particular praise from respondents.

The 1987 survey shows the

positions of the top three international airlines unchanged from 1986, with British Airways occupying second place and Singapore Airlines coming in third.

Zurich was voted the third most popular airport worldwide behind Amsterdam and Singapore, and was, thus, second favourite in Europe. Prompt passport and customs clearance, and reliable baggage retrieval were both especially appreciated by the travellers polled.

The award will be presented on Oct. 1. The ceremony is to be held in London, where on Sept. 29, Swissair received a further international distinction, being voted best European airline by the British "Executive Travel Magazine."



An airplane from Swissair, a major European airline which has been recognised with international distinctions.

Saudi development fund to loan university JD 6.5m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) will grant Jordan a JD 6.5 million loan to help finance the construction of buildings for the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) near Irbid, in accordance with an agreement signed at the Ministry of Planning on Sunday.

The loan will be spent on building installations for the Medical Sciences Faculty at the university in order to create more higher educational opportunities for Jordanian students training in medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, and public health, according to the agreement. Once the project is completed, at least 700 students can be absorbed by these departments annually.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher, who is acting for Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan, and Mohammad Suqair, the SFD director general, who arrived in Amman Saturday on a four-day visit to Jordan.

Following the signing ceremony, Dr. Muasher voiced appreciation to Saudi Arabia for its contribution towards Jordan's development. He said that Jordan is interested in deepening brotherly ties with Saudi Arabia and is grateful for the SFD assistance aimed at promoting the Kingdom's economic and social development.

For his part, Mr. Suqair voiced his country's recognition of the success of development schemes being carried out in Jordan, and at the signing (Petra photo)

praised the spirit of positive and constructive cooperation that characterises the Saudi-Jordanian relations in all fields.

With the signing of the new agreement, Jordan will have obtained JD 80 million from the SFD in 12 loans for financing various development projects. Among these projects are: expansion of power stations and water networks in Amman and Aqaba, improving the port facilities in Aqaba, irrigation projects in the Jordan Valley, and construction of secondary schools and vocational training centres in other areas of the country.

The SFD normally grants soft loans payable after 20 years with

a five-year grace period. The fund also considers, generally, 50 per cent of loans to Arab countries as grants.

Later, Mr. Suqair visited JUST in Irbid and met with its President, Kamel Ajlouni, who briefed him on the development of the university and its programmes.

Among those attending the meeting were Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, Yarmouk University president and Dr. Ziyad Fariz, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning.

The SFD normally grants soft loans payable after 20 years with



Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher and Director-General of the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) Mohammad Al Suqair sign an agreement on Sunday for an SFD loan of JD 6.5 million to the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST). JUST President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni (right) was also present at the signing (Petra photo)

Population education training course aims at innovation

By Nermene Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A regional training course on population education in the Arab World opened here Sunday with the participation of educational experts from 10 Arab states.

The course, organised by the Amman-based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), in cooperation with the University of Jordan's centres for consulting and technical services and studies, was opened with a speech from Hamed El Khawadhi, acting director of the UNESCO regional office here.

In his speech, Mr. Khawadhi stressed the importance of demographic issues and the attention given to these issues by the UNESCO regional offices in the world over the years.

Mr. Khawadhi also explained that the regional plan for population education is directed towards eleven programmes in seven Arab countries — Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Syria, North Yemen, and South Yemen. He noted that Algeria is expected to join the programme in 1988. According to Mr. Khawadhi, "the population of these countries constitute 74 per cent of the total

population in the Arab World."

In addition, he emphasised that the "imbalance between population growth rate and available resources will create economic, social, and educational problems." He cited unemployment, housing crises, overflow in education centres, and many others as examples of the results of this imbalance.

The UNESCO regional director said that population education has faced many obstacles in the Arab World, as a result of the lack of understanding of the problem and the inability to differentiate between population education and family planning. He added, however, that, though the early seventies the programme started slowly, now, it has progressed to become an integral part of educational institutions, due largely to growing understanding of its concepts and aims.

The topics to be discussed during the course deal mainly with a review of the experiences of Arab states in population education, methods for transferring population theories, and for activating new goals in population education.

There will also be studies and research papers on population and environment in the Arab World, women's role in development and population, and basic concepts and information in de-

mography, such as mortality and fertility.

The training course is mainly aimed at boosting population-related activities and educational innovations in the Arab World through the introduction of new concepts and approaches.

It will provide participants with the ability to make well-informed and sound decisions with regard to

population issues, as well as encourage them to look for new educational methods and techniques that will lead to further understanding of population education and its impact on present and future communities.

Jordanian youth invited to join children's competition



AMMAN (J.T.) — The Shankar's International Children's Competition of India is now open to Jordanian children under the age of 16, as well as to other children around the world. The organisers of the competition published a statement in which they stressed that the main objective of the competition is creating understanding and love among children of various countries.

Children from every corner of the world are invited to send their paintings, short stories, and essays for this competition provided they were born on or after Jan. 1, 1972, the statement said.

There is no entry fee and competitors are free to choose the theme, subject they are interested in or like most, for their paintings, drawings, and writings. Above all, each entry should be certified by the parent, guardian, or teacher that it is the original, unaided work of the competitor done during 1987, the statement said.

The statement made it clear that the following rules should be observed:

— In paintings/drawings: any medium, other than black lead pencil, can be used; the size of each entry should not be less than 30 cm x 40 cm in size; a competitor may submit up to 6 entries, which should not be framed.

— In written work: only entries written originally in English will be considered and translations from other languages do not qualify for the competition; entries may be in the form of poems, plays, short stories, essays, de-

scriptive writing, and the like; a competitor may submit up to 6 entries, which should be in a neat handwriting or typed.

As for the prizes, the statement added that the entries will be judged by the organisers, and winners will receive gold and silver medals and certificates of merit.

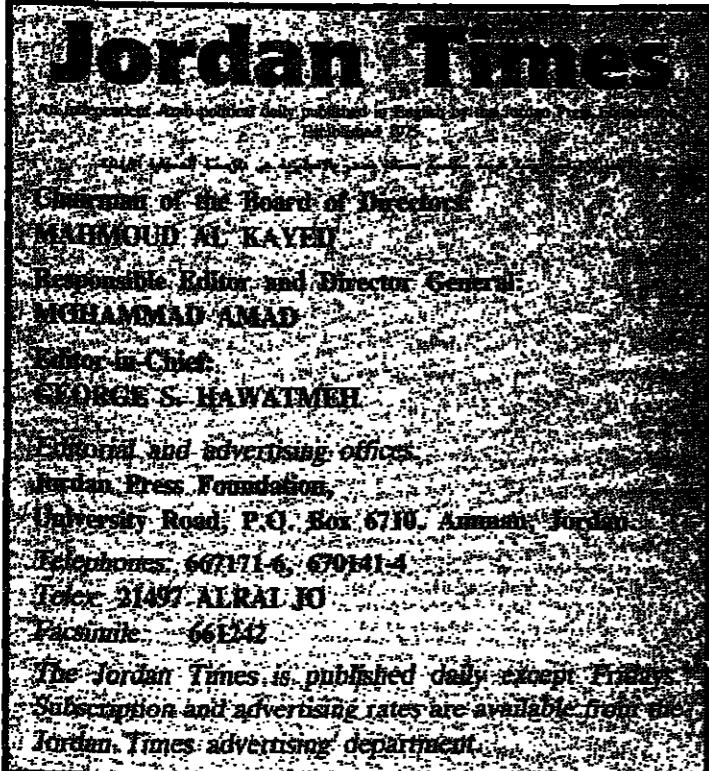
The statement gave the following address to which all entries should be sent before Dec. 31, 1987.

Shankar's International Children's Competition, Nehru House, 4 Bahadur Shahzafar Marg, New Delhi 110002, India. Full name, date of birth, nationality, and full address of the competitor should be clear.

IDEAL

Ideal Systems Co.
P.O. Box 182756, Amman — Jordan. Tel: 676175/6
Shmeisani, Amin Kawar & Sons Building

Apple



Ahlan wa Sahlan

PAKISTANI President General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq's visit to Jordan, upon the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein, could not have occurred at a more opportune time. The official visit is not only an excellent expression of the distinguished relations between Jordan and Pakistan; it also takes place at a critical juncture in the events of the Middle East, ranging from the Arab-Israeli conflict to the Iran-Iraq war which is still ravaging the entire Gulf region. That the state visit to our country by President Zia is an embodiment of the special relations which bind Pakistan and Jordan on more than one front is a foregone conclusion. Much more will be constructed on the edifice of brotherly relations between the two countries during the two-day stay of the distinguished leader of Pakistan, his wife, and the high-level delegation accompanying them.

The range of mutual interests between Islamabad and Amman is vast and includes many issues of cultural, economic and political concern. The Arab-Israeli conflict and the raging Gulf war will certainly figure highly on the agenda of King Hussein and President Zia. Surely, the stalemate in the peace process will be duly noted by the two leaders, and their attentions will focus on ways to breathe new life into the projected conference on the Middle East. Pakistan, fortunately, plays a pivotal role in regional politics. Its geographic proximity to the Arab Gulf, and friendly relations with practically all the parties concerned with the conflict puts it in a unique position to affect, positively, the development of events in the whole region. It is noted that Pakistan has the "envious" ability to communicate with Tehran and possesses, as well, some leverage with the Iranian government. Indeed, Pakistan is among the very few countries which, miraculously, succeeded in maintaining channels of communication with the Khomeini regime. With such credentials, Pakistan was able to counsel moderation and restraint to the Iranian government, against formidable odds. There is no doubt that Pakistan would like nothing more than to see U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 implemented fully, in the shortest time possible and is, clearly, working diligently to that end. The fact that President Zia will proceed to Ankara from Amman is indicative of Pakistan's determination to exert every effort to end the Iran-Iraq war. It is significant that Ankara also enjoys a good working relationship with Tehran; and, between Turkey and Pakistan, much work can be done in the direction of persuading Tehran to heed the will of the international community, to stop the senseless war in the Gulf and eliminate the causes of tension there.

As we welcome the Pakistani president and first lady and their accompanying delegation, and wish them a very successful and happy stay in our midst, we pray to God that our mutual aspirations with regard to peace in the Middle East and, particularly, in the Gulf region will be realised through the combined, relentless and sincere efforts of King Hussein and President Zia. The world awaits the results of the two leaders' talks with great anticipation and hope. There is no doubt that the King and President Zia will do their utmost to accelerate the process of peace in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Brotherly relations

JORDAN today welcomes the guests of King Hussein and Queen Noor: the Pakistani president and his wife who head a friendly country linked to Jordan with bounds of mutual respect and joint cooperation in all fields. Indeed Jordanian-Pakistani relations represent a model of brotherly relations between the two Islamic countries, bent on pursuing efforts for bolstering inter-Islamic relations. Jordan and Pakistan are bound through numerous agreements designed to maintain economic and cultural cooperation, and coordination in trade and tourism affairs. Both countries are keen on further bolstering bilateral ties and promoting cooperation not only in economic affairs but also political and social fields. Pakistan has been a staunch supporter of Arab just causes, particularly the Palestine problem, standing firm in the face of Israel's occupation of Arab land. The visit of President Zia Ul Haq to Jordan and his talks with the King and senior government leaders are bound to cement the eternal relationship and contribute more towards bolstering bilateral cooperation.

Al Dustour: Gulf war escalates

THE current escalation of the Gulf conflict seems to be a prelude to more battles and more bloodshed, as international efforts seem continually diminishing and unable to half the war. This situation has been brought about simply due to Iran's intransigent position and its refusal to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 598 which offered a real chance for ending the seven-year-old conflict. The United Nations General Assembly continues to witness speakers calling for an end to the war, and many mediators are still active hoping to find a common ground for a ceasefire in the Gulf. But, the latest developments and Iran's continued attempts to impede international navigation point to one fact: That the Tehran regime is bent on stepping up the war and increasing tension in the Gulf in total disregard to international principles and United Nations resolutions. If the U.N. Security Council fails to convince Iran to stop the fighting and reach a peaceful settlement with Iraq, then Iraq has no alternative but to make Tehran succumb to the international will in a different and more convincing manner with serious consequences to the Iranian peoples.

Sawt Al Shabab: A true friend

JORDAN under King Hussein continues to spearhead an active role on the Arab and Islamic fronts, dedicating efforts and serious endeavours for achieving the aspirations of the Muslim peoples. Following his tour of Arab countries in search of a formula to re-establish solidarity among Arab leaders, the King is today welcoming the Pakistani president in Amman. President Zia Ul Haq is known as one of the staunchest supporters of Arab rights and Arab causes at all levels, specially with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem. Pakistan has been calling for a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and demanding that the Palestinian people be granted their rights and their homeland. Jordan which welcomes the Pakistani president today remembers all the qualities and the efforts of this great man who spares no effort in his quest to strengthen the ranks of Muslim people around the globe and serve their interests and their rights.

Between the Israeli hammer and the Iranian anvil

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

IRANIAN President Ali Khamenei might or might not have met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres last week in New York while the two were attending this year's session of the U.N. General Assembly. But this is beside the point. The real point remains that Israel and Iran have been engaged in covert talks over the span of the last few years and only God knows for sure when in fact they have started. The chain of contacts between the two regimes have turned out to be a long one, involving at one stage the son of Khomeini himself.

The string of such "behind the scenes" negotiations may have been propelled by the proposition that "my enemies' enemy is my friend," which suited fine both Tehran and Tel Aviv. It is now an open secret that Tehran and Tel Aviv have been engaged all along in confidential talks aiming inter alia for a trade off between Iranian Jews and Israeli military arms and support. The memories of the so-called covert contra affair are still fresh and vivid in our minds. One can hardly forget that Israeli agents and policy makers from one end of the Israeli political spectrum to the other had played a pivotal and catalytic role in the contra affair with a view to arrive at a deal with Iran encompassing first the transfer of thousands of Iranian Jews to Israel in return for Israeli arms and military support to Iran's war machine, and second to cement permanent strategic relations between the two countries. We should not be surprised therefore that the contacts between the two countries have never ended and are not likely to end as long as the Gulf war is still ravaging Iran and Iraq.

What we should fear most is that the longer the Iran-Iraq war continues the longer the contacts between Tehran and Tel Aviv would continue too and may reach a stage where it would be impossible to reverse. In other words what really concerns us and should concern us are the long-term implications of such developments in the relations between Israel and Iran on "power games" in our region. More bluntly expressed, we must fear the probability of finding ourselves in the Arab World literally between the Israeli

hammer and the Iranian anvil in the final analysis. This catastrophic eventuality must be reckoned with as of these moments, and Arab counter plans must be initiated as of now to neutralise this tendency in the Israeli-Iranian relations. It is incumbent on us in the Arab World to start articulating long-range policies towards Iran with a view to arrest the mushrooming relations between Israel and the Khomeini regime in Tehran. We must strive at all costs to frustrate Israeli master-plans to drive a permanent wedge between the Arabs and Iranians. We must not lose sight of the fact that once upon a time our relations with Iran were remarkably good and that was not too long ago either. We must recall that first and foremost our quarrel now is with the Khomeini regime in Iran rather than with Iran per se or its fine people. Much brings the two peoples together. We share the same faith and common heritage and much can be constructed on the edifice of the tenets of Islam which once brought harmony and brotherly relations between Iranians and Arabs. The existing aberration in the Iranian-Arab relations could be short lived and will not survive, we hope, the on-going Khomeini revolution. We have all the right to anticipate the upheaval in Iran to burn itself out sooner or later and the ill-guided zealousness and romanticism which propel it, to fizzle out sooner than later. This is the nature of all "revolutions" and this is the order of events which surround major political upheavals from their chaotic genesis to either their orderly and seasonal zenith or to their catastrophic demise. In either case, we must be prepared for the post-revolutionary era in Iran as a positive stage where we the Arabs and the Iranian people can still strike harmonious relations unparalleled in the recent past. It is imperative that we think positively about future Arab-Iranian relations and to avoid at all cost to succumb to the temptations drawn for us by Israel, i.e., that Arab-Iranian relations are doomed forever and that they have only one direction to move to, namely, from bad to worse. In this vein, what is proposed here is that we the Arabs must begin to formulate contingency plans for the future when sanity reigns supreme in Iran once again. We must not be caught off guard and unprepared.

Having said all this, the Arab World should not, nevertheless, stray away from its commitments to Iraq which demands that the Arab countries stand firm and solid with Baghdad in its honourable quest for a permanent negotiated settlement with Tehran. In other words, our concern for the long-range relations between the Arab countries and Iran should not erode our present short-range and immediate pre-occupation to end the Iran-Iraq war on the basis of Resolution 598 as the only existing viable indivisible formula for ending the hostilities in the Arab Gulf. The Arab World should continue to stand tall, united and firm behind Iraq's quest for the complete and orderly implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. In this context the forthcoming Arab summit in Amman provides an opportune and propitious occasion for manifesting positive honourable Arab statesmanship on the highest level conceivable. The Arab kings and heads of state are called upon to show genuine Arab unity and optimum degree of responsibility during the Amman summit lest the world, including the Khomeini regime, interpret Arab differences as signs of the weakening of Arab resolve to end the Gulf war on an honourable and just basis as called for in Resolution 598.

Thus in advocating and subscribing to this dual-pronged approach to the Gulf conflict, the Arab World can realise two complementary objectives: An immediate one which aims to end the Iran-Iraq war forthwith without further procrastinations; and a long-range one which aims to arrest the Israeli advances in the Gulf region by effectively neutralising its aspirations to establish long-durable unholy alliances or deals with Iran. This second objective requires much planning and much vision and thought of a strategic nature. Whatever the cost, we in the Arab World must never allow ourselves to fall into the trap prepared for us by Israel, namely, to find ourselves willy-nilly permanently locked in between the Israeli hammer and the Iranian anvil. I fear that should we one day find ourselves in that dreadful place, it would take a miracle to extricate ourselves from it.

Pakistan's nuclear programme prompted by growing need for energy

The following article is a formal Pakistani paper supplied by the Pakistani embassy in Amman.

PAKISTAN'S nuclear programme stems from the country's:

- (a) desperate need for energy;
- (b) woeful deficiency in conventional energy resources; and
- (c) anxiety to achieve some independence in nuclear fuel supply for its present and future nuclear power plants.

Current energy scene

Pakistan in recent years has been facing an acute shortage of electric power. Almost all parts of the country have been, particularly during winters, subjected to hours of load-shedding each day.

The increase in demand for electric power has been on an average 12 per cent annum since 1978. The increase in power generation has been 9 per cent for the corresponding period with the resulting shortfall in supply.

The total installed capacity of the country is 6,250 MW. More than half of this is hydel and, therefore, dependent on river flows to the dams. During the winter of 1985, for instance, an acute drought had lowered the water levels in the country's two major dams — Tarbela and Mangla — to such an extent that turbine operations had to be staggered and load-shedding for longer hours resorted to in order to reduce the demand to the supply level.

In the U.S. an average citizen consumes some 10,000 units of electricity a year. In Europe the per capita consumption averages about 5,000 units. World average is 1,850 units per head. While

the yearly average for the developing countries is 450 units per capita, Pakistan's per capita consumption is only 265 units and even this remains unassured owing to the unsteady production of hydel power. An energy crisis is thus looming large today in Pakistan.

Conventional energy resources

Pakistan's energy resources base is quite limited. Proven recoverable reserves of fossil fuels comprise 34 million tonnes of oil, 16 million cft of natural gas, and 85 million tonnes of coal. All these put together come to just about half a billion tonnes of coal equivalent (TCE).

This quantity compares very unfavourably with that of many other developing countries. Take India, for instance. Its proven fossil fuel resources are estimated to be 39 billion TCE — 72 times those of Pakistan.

On a per capita basis the proven fossil fuel reserves of Pakistan come to only six TCE as compared to the world average of about 200 TCE.

At present hydel generation of electricity is the main source of power accounting for about 55 per cent of total output.

The economically exploitable hydro potential is in the range of 12,000-14,000 MW. Taking into account the existing capacity and the projected output of the new dams, the total generation of hydro power by the year 2000 will be about 10,000 MW.

Keeping aside the current oil

recession in the international market, which is expected to be short-lived, oil price increases since 1973 had made it almost impossible for Pakistan to set up large thermal power stations.

As it is, Pakistan has to import 70 per cent of its total oil consumption and spend more than half of its export earnings on half of its oil bills. Its foreign exchange resources do not admit of a substantial increase in oil imports.

As for the use of coal for power generation, Pakistan's lignite coal is limited in quantity and is of a low quality with as much as 7 per cent of sulphur content. It cannot be used economically for power generation.

The position of the supply of natural gas is relatively better, but gas is a precious raw material for fertilizer production and for petrochemical industry and cannot be allocated for power generation at the expense of other more important applications. It has accordingly been planned to limit the capacity of gas-fired plants to 2,500 MW by the year 2000.

Taking into account likely contributions from all available conventional sources, Pakistan will still have a gap of at least 5,000 MW by the turn of this century.

How to fill this gap? The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had, some 10 years ago, pointed out: "In terms of fossil fuel resources, Pakistan is one of the poorest countries in the world. The alternatives left are to rely more and more on nuclear power or imported oil. To meet the demand to the supply level.

The most economical and proven nuclear power plants are of the light-water variety which use uranium enriched to about 3

per cent. That is the level of enrichment being sought at Kahuta.

Nuclear power plants are too expensive to risk interruption of fuel and other essential supplies. Pakistan has already had a sad experience when the fuel supply to its nuclear power plant in Karachi was unilaterally stopped in 1976 by the supplier state despite the fact that the plant was then and still continues to be under IAEA safeguards. The plant now runs on locally produced fuel.

As for Kahuta laboratory, it has been clarified time and again at the highest political level that the modest exercise there in uranium enrichment is on a research scale. On a world-wide basis, according to recent estimates, 15 per cent of all the power is now generated by nuclear plants.

As the IAEA had pointed out 10 years ago, assurance of an adequate supply of nuclear fuel is a pre-requisite for the success of Pakistan's nuclear power programme.

Independence in fuel supply

It was Pakistan's anxiety to ensure an uninterrupted and adequate supply of fuel that prompted the setting up at Kahuta, a village some 20 miles southeast of Islamabad, a research laboratory for uranium enrichment. Natural uranium is found in Pakistan.

The most economical and proven nuclear power plants are of the light-water variety which use uranium enriched to about 3

per cent. That is the level of enrichment being sought at Kahuta.

The president of Pakistan has repeatedly said that Pakistan is not making a bomb, is not in a position of making a bomb and has no intention of making a bomb. We have not only made this commitment solemnly, we are prepared also to accept international safeguards on a non-discriminatory basis.

Pakistan strongly believes in the peaceful promotion and application of nuclear energy and has offered India a number of proposals to keep our region free from introduction or production of nuclear weapons. A proposal for the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in South Asia was presented by Pakistan as early as in 1974. Later on, the following five more proposals have also been extended by Pakistan to India:-

1. Simultaneous accession to Non-proliferation Treaty.
2. Arrangements for mutual inspections of one another's nuclear installations.
3. Simultaneous acceptance of complete IAEA safeguards for all nuclear installations.
4. Renunciation of nuclear weapons through a joint declaration.

5. Any other practicable proposal which India may like to present.

India has so far not responded to any of the above proposals in a positive manner.

King urges Pakistan to use its good ties with Iran to end Gulf war

(Continued from page 1)

and a number of Pakistani government and senior officials.

Shortly after Gen. Zia's arrival, the King and Queen received the Pakistani leader and his wife at the Al Nadwa Palace. The King conferred on Gen. Zia the Hussein Ali Medal, Jordan's highest honour. The King presented the Pakistani first lady with the Al Nahda Order.

Following the reception at Al Nadwa Palace, the two leaders co-chaired bilateral discussions attended by senior officials from both sides.

King Hussein and Prince Hassan also held a separate meeting with President Zia, and reviewed the latest developments on the Islamic and international arena.

King Hussein briefed Gen. Zia on the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and efforts towards convening an international peace conference on the Middle East. Both leaders reaffirmed the necessity of supporting efforts to achieve a just and durable peace in the area and to regain the occupied territories and restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The Iran-Iraq war and recent developments in the Gulf conflict were discussed during the meeting. King Hussein and Gen. Zia expressed their "growing fear at the continuation of the war," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Both leaders stressed the urgent need to support all international efforts to put an end to the war in a peaceful manner.

On the situation in strife-torn Lebanon, King Hussein and Gen. Zia said that national unity should be restored among the Lebanese people and security and stability should return to the country. They stressed that Israel should withdraw its troops from

southern Lebanon.

Discussions between the two leaders also dealt with the situation in Afghanistan and means to further promote joint Islamic work.

Petra said the two sides expressed their satisfaction at the rapid development in bilateral relations, and pledged to work towards further promoting cooperation in the fields of technology, agriculture, trade and culture.

The Jordanian side to the earlier meeting was attended by Prince Mohammad, Mr. Rifai, Mr. Qasem, Mr. Abu Odeh, Marshal Sharif Zaid, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, and Foreign Minister Raja Muasher and Jordan's Ambassador to Pakistan Fakhri Abu Taleb.

The Pakistani delegation to the meeting included Mr. Yacoub Khan, Mr. Haq, Mr. Hussein, Congressman Fasih Iqbal and Mohammad Ali Shah, and Pakistan's Ambassador to Jordan Sajid Hassan Sayed.

In his banquet speech, King Hussein hailed Pakistan's constant initiatives in every world forum to advocate and call for the application of international legitimacy. He said: "We in Jordan appreciate and value your constant support for our persistent efforts to attain a just peace in our area in accordance with international legitimacy. Such an achievement will be a major contribution towards the establishment of peace in our troubled world."

He said Jordan also appreciated Pakistan's support for the called for international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli problem to be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all other parties to the conflict.

He urged Pakistan and the Muslim Nation to intensify contacts with the international powers "to accept such a framework for peace and help in its implementation."

His Majesty reiterated Jordan's position regarding the goals of the proposed conference. "The aim of holding such a meeting will be to find effective ways and means to implement U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 which stipulate the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and call on Israel to withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 in exchange for peace."

The King said Jordan appreciated the "great sacrifices" that Pakistan had made by offering reorganisation of Jordan's Armed Forces that resulted in the enhancement of the country's defence capabilities.

Gen. Zia was a member of a Pakistani army training mission which worked in Jordan in the early 1970s.

Mystique of U.S.B-1 bomber further tarnished by birds

By Charles Aldinger

Reuter

WASHINGTON — America's sleek B-1B bomber, its swing-wing mystique already tarnished by electrical problems and leaky fuel tanks, has now flown into a new problem of unexpected and deadly dimensions.

A flock of birds caused one of the \$280-million nuclear bombers to crash in flames last Monday, a fact the Pentagon says Soviet air defences could not accomplish if a B-1B darted towards Moscow or Leningrad at ground-hugging levels.

Officials said the accident, which killed three of six crewmembers, was not the fault of the plane or the pilot.

But it has raised more questions about Pentagon's most controversial and political weapon — a programme cancelled by Jimmy Carter and revived by Ronald Reagan.

"I can't understand it," a senior air force officer told Reuters after the crash in the hills of southeastern Colorado.

"This is a very, very good aircraft. It can put bombs and missiles on target anywhere. But every day now it looks more like someone has put a hex on it."

The bomber, one of 69 already delivered to the air force by Rockwell International Corp.,

was making a low-level attack run at an air force practice range near the town of La Junta when it began sucking birds into two of the four engines.

In a final message, the crew reported "multiple bird hits."

The B-1B climbed quickly and three of the six crewmen parachuted to safety before it plunged to earth in flames, killing the pilot and two other crewmen.

Witnesses said the plane appeared to burst into flames shortly before it crashed along a route used by ducks, geese and other fowl migrating south from Canada. The air force said it had no nuclear weapons on board.

The air force said it did not plan to ground B-1 bombers in the wake of the crash, but it appointed a board of nine officers to investigate the incident and find out what kind of birds were involved.

Birds are always a hazard to low-flying aircraft, military and commercial, air force Maj. Randy Morger said.

"You can't do too much about it. And you can't put baffles or screens over the engines because then you disturb the air flow needed by jets," said Morger, a Pentagon spokesman.

But he also said that among the items that will be investigated is how three crewmen managed to get out while the three others did

not. He said the three main seats in the aircraft are equipped with ejection seats that jettison their occupants out through panels in the aircraft.

It was the first crash of an updated B-1B version of the bomber, which went into service last year amid charges from congressional opponents that there were major problems with electrical systems designed to foil Soviet radar detection — the heart of the plane's attack system.

Air force officials have admitted some problems with those systems, "weeping" — meaning minor leaks — in fuel tanks and design problems with bomb-bay doors.

But Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and the service's top brass say the problems are being fixed, that they were chiefly the result of a speeded-up development and production schedule when Reagan gave a go-ahead to the aircraft in 1981.

The B-1B is the best, most capable strategic bomber ever built," Weinberger said in a speech on September 4.

"Our crews tell us it is better than any system they have ever had. Somehow, I would rather accept their judgment than the combined wisdom of all the defence experts and writers who ... have not had time to talk to the



The B-1 bomber — a metal bird

people who really know what a good plane the B-1 is."

But Weinberger, according to spokesman John Pike of the Federation of American Scientists, apparently did not talk to the crew that was to bring the plane home from the Paris air show last June.

When the crew climbed aboard to fly back to the United States, the plane would not start because of a failure in its auxiliary power unit. It left Paris a day later after the air force carted in a 230-volt unit to jump-start the engines.

The air force is scheduled to buy 100 of the B-1Bs in a \$28-billion programme. At the same

time, it is developing a super-secret "stealth" bomber designed to avoid radar detection by using revolutionary shapes and metals.

Although this was the first crash of an updated B-1B version of the bomber, an earlier B-1A model crashed on a California training mission on August 29, 1984, killing Rockwell test pilot Doug Benefield and seriously injuring two other crewmen.

Investigators determined that the crew did not shift the fuel load properly during low-level manoeuvres, although computers warned them it was time to do so.

"When you have those kind of problems and you're still trying to

avoid mountains and hills at high speed and low level with a radar that might not work properly, what are you going to do about birds?" asked Pike.

But four-star air force Gen. John Chain, commander of the U.S. Strategic Air Command, told congress last spring: "The B-1B is the best warplane in the world today on anybody's side."

Frank L. Conahan, director of the national security and international affairs division of Congress' General Accounting Office, told the Washington Post in a recent interview: "It might be the best plane ever made except it can't do its mission."

New tests for birth defects

By Gina Kolata

NEW YORK — Doctors in the United States are increasingly offering pregnant women two prenatal tests that in some respects are still experimental.

But the tests, designed to detect serious and common birth defects, are providing what many women regard as welcome new opportunities to learn the condition of a fetus.

One procedure, in which a sample of tissue is removed from the uterus, can detect a variety of genetic defects, including Down's syndrome, as early as nine weeks into pregnancy. But in some cases, the test will result in miscarriage; researchers still do not know exactly how dangerous it is compared with the long-used procedure of amniocentesis, which detects the same fetal problems.

The choriocnic test was introduced in the United States in 1983, but it was a first offered at only a handful of medical centres. Initially, physicians used a plastic catheter, inserted through the cervix, to obtain the samples. The FDA regulated the catheter, which it classed as a new device. But today more and more obstetricians are using a needle inserted into the woman's abdomen, an unregulated technique. Because the FDA cannot regulate procedures, only drugs or devices, it has been unable to limit use of the test.

Many physicians believe the abdominal approach is safer than the trans-cervical procedure. Dr. Jackson suggested that the abdominal technique might offer less risk of hitting vital fetal structures, causing miscarriages. And Dr. George Rhoads of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland, said he believed that with the abdominal technique there was less of a chance of infection, a rare but potentially serious complication.

The use of both tests is growing explosively, federal experts say. Because the tests are so often a prelude to abortion, they have heated an already simmering controversy. But many obstetricians are offering them anyway, in part because they feel the tests offer undeniable benefits and, at least in the case of the blood test, because they fear their legal liability if they do not offer the test. In California, physicians are required by law to offer the blood test to their patients, about half the patients are agreeing.

The first test, called choriocnic villus sampling, is offered at about nine to 11 weeks of pregnancy. Many experts believe it will eventually replace at least two-thirds of the more familiar amniocentesis procedures, which can only be done in about the fourth month of pregnancy, when abortions are more difficult, both physically and emotionally.

Amniocentesis involves cells obtained from the fluid surrounding the fetus in the amniotic sac. The diluted cells must be grown in the laboratory before they can be analysed, so results are not available until about two weeks after the procedure is performed.

In chorionic villus sampling the

cells are taken from hairlike projections, or villi, on the gestational sac that surrounds the fetus early in pregnancy. The results are available within a few days.

The second test, alpha-fetoprotein screening, is a blood test that is mainly used to detect defects in the neural tube — which forms the spinal column and brain — the most common birth defects in the United States. It can also indicate when a fetus is at greater risk for Down's syndrome.

The choriocnic test was developed in England about 15 years ago, but it was slow to be adopted in the United States, in part because a number of investigators and the FDA feared it would be offered without adequate counseling and followup services such as sonograms and amniocentesis, if necessary. But about two years ago, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists warned physicians that they might be subject to suit if they did not offer a woman the test and she later had a child with a defect.

The test was developed to detect the serious birth defects that occur when the neural tube does not completely close during early development of the fetus. About half the time, the tube is open at the top and the baby is born with a rudimentary brain, or no brain at all, a condition called anencephaly. These babies are dead at birth or die soon after.

In the other half of the cases, the opening is along the spine, and a portion of the nerve column of the spine is exposed. These babies, said to have spina bifida, are paralysed below the portion of open spine. Some of these children also have hydrocephalus, a condition in which fluid accumulates in the head and that can result in brain damage. Children with spina bifida may be mentally retarded, and frequently have no bowel or bladder control.

Neural tube defects occur in about one out of every 1,000 babies born.

When a fetus has a neural tube defect, large amounts of alpha-fetoprotein pour out of the open spine or skull into the amniotic fluid. From there they enter the mother's bloodstream, where they can be detected.

The blood protein test is given at 16 weeks of pregnancy, when there is enough of the protein around to make testing feasible.

Those women whose alpha-fetoprotein levels are abnormally

high are given sonograms, pictures of the fetus produced by sound waves, to see if there is some other explanation for the finding. If the sonogram reveals no explanation, the woman is given amniocentesis. The amniotic fluid is checked for alpha-fetoprotein and for acetylcholinesterase, a nerve enzyme that is often present when the fetus has a neural tube defect.

In 1984, Dr. Irwin R. Merkatz of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx noticed that just as high levels of the fetal protein in a pregnant woman's blood indicate that her fetus may have a neural tube defect, so low levels may indicate that the fetus has a chromosomal defect, the most common of which is Down's syndrome. The finding was recently confirmed in a two-year study of 34,000 pregnant women in Connecticut directed by Dr. Miriam Schoenfeld DiMaio of the Yale University School of Medicine.

Dr. DiMaio and others hail this result as an unexpected benefit of alpha-fetoprotein screening. Until then, women were not normally offered amniocentesis unless they were at least 35, the age at which the risk of carrying a child with Down's syndrome — one in 270 — is about the same as the risk that the procedure will result in loss of the fetus.

But, Dr. DiMaio notes, 80 per cent of women who have babies with Down's syndrome are under 35; although their individual risks of having a child with Down's syndrome are low, so many pregnant women are younger than 35 that they have most of the affected babies.

With alpha-fetoprotein screening, it is possible to tell younger women if the fetus they are carrying is at increased risk of having Down's syndrome and to offer them amniocentesis. Not all cases of Down's syndrome will be detected by the blood protein test and most women who have amniocentesis on the basis of the test will not have fetuses with Down's syndrome, but the chance that they will is high enough to warrant the risk of amniocentesis.

Some critics have wanted to slow the introduction of the new tests. But many doctors say there is never an ideal time to introduce new medical tests — there will always be nagging questions. And for many women, the benefits appear to outweigh the uncertainties, these doctors say — The New York Times.

which, in a short space, explains its subject well and sets it in its political and historical context. Phillip Berryman, a former Catholic priest, is not a theologian but has studied the theology from its original sources and knows Latin America from having worked there since the mid-1960s.

The term "liberation theology" was first used by Gustavo Gutiérrez in a talk on the eve of the Latin American bishops' conference in Medellin in Colombia in 1968. It is easier to pin down in practice than in theory. Its practitioners describe it as "an interpretation of Christian faith out of the experience of the poor."

Priests help the poor organise themselves in "basic communities" which often, perhaps inevitably, become vehicles for radical

politics as the poor are taught to read and then to claim their rights. This process is called conscientization (conscientizacão in Portuguese), which, roughly translated, means consciousness-raising. The term was coined by Paulo Freire, a Brazilian educationalist who had to flee his native country after the military coup of 1964. One of the heaviest concentrations of support for liberation theology is in Nicaragua, whose government includes several Catholic priests, Father Ernesto Cardenal best known among them. As Mr. Berryman shows, their criticisms of society often extends to the church.

Inevitably, this blend of Christianity and Marxism (as Father Leonardo Boff called it on a trip to Russia in July), provokes strong criticism. The Vatican

supported by many bishops in

Latin America, would like to replace liberation theology with the less exciting "theology of reconciliation." This wants to see free elections of governments which permit the church to act freely, a greater degree of social awareness among businessmen and a more equal distribution of wealth. The theology of reconciliation has no place for Jesus, the subversive from Nazareth armed with a machine gun. It frowns on the idea of priests directly participating in politics (those in the Nicaraguan government have been suspended from their priestly functions). The Pope's arguments seem to be prevailing, but liberation theology, with its emphasis on social justice, has already made its point — The Economist.

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Randa Habib's corner

Stop the murders

THIS year witnessed an increased number of fratricide cases in which, mainly brothers kill their sisters for "furnishing the family's honour." The killers normally get away with minor sentences because the law, somehow, embodies the concept of leniency with such cases.

These murders are contrary to both the Islamic faith and to our aspirations for a just and progressive society. Islam, our guiding faith, requires evidence beyond all doubt before condemning a woman, or equally a man, of committing a sin.

When a woman commits an act that the family considers to be dishonourable, the family itself, contrary to Islam's stringent rules, investigates the matter and passes judgment. Brothers, not fathers, are entrusted with the task of eliminating the sister because the brother can "endure a few years in jail." In most of the cases, I doubt the brother, a young boy, is unwilling either to kill or to be killed. But the family puts enormous pressure on the brother to defend their honour, to a compelling and confusing extent.

But, when a girl or a boy misbehaves, is her or his misbehaviour a direct result of bad upbringing on behalf of the family itself? Shouldn't the father or mother, the mature adults bear the responsibility?

These murders should not be allowed to continue, because they are inhuman and because they result in enormous suffering and loss. The universities should take the initiative and study this phenomena; and the government should enact laws or amend them to make sentences harsher and more effective in stopping these crimes. Surely a father who expects his boy to go to jail for 10 to 15 years would think twice before putting a gun in his hand.

AIDS-stricken theatre group stages response

By Caren Ross

Reuter

NEW YORK — In conveying the anguish and anger that AIDS sufferers feel, a new theatre group has a tragic edge: All cast members have the deadly syndrome or the condition known as AIDS-related complex that often precedes it.

The cast varies as different actors deteriorate or improve in health, and the scripts reflect first-hand experience with AIDS.

"We've got to adapt to a

population that can't be depended upon any given week," said Seth Glassman, a former drama teacher at New York University who directs the all-AIDS theatre group.

Instead of performing plays created by healthy playwrights unfamiliar with the feelings that accompany AIDS, the actors re-create AIDS-related complex that often precedes it.

The actors deteriorate or improve in health, and the scripts reflect first-hand experience with AIDS.

"We've got to adapt to a

population that can't be depended upon any given week," said Seth Glassman, a former drama teacher at New York University who directs the all-AIDS theatre group.

One actor recalled a steely

doctor diagnosing AIDS in him

after the biopsy of a purple spot

on his arm.

"Kaposi's sarcoma, no T-cells, probably pneumocystis pneumonia," the doctor told him, ticking off some of the conditions that most frequently rack AIDS patients.

In addition to producing good theatre, the group's purpose is "to empower people with AIDS" and to combat the feelings of helplessness and passivity that accompany sickness, said Nick Pippin, an assistant director of the group and an actor infected with AIDS.

Australian Davis Cup semifinals

Krishnan crushes Australian and scores triumph for India

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Ramesh Krishnan played some of the finest tennis of his career at White City on Sunday to guide an apparently undermanned Indian team to a 3-2 upset victory over defending champion Australia in the Davis Cup tennis semifinal.

Krishnan crushed Wally Masur 8-6, 6-4 in the decisive singles after Australia had fought back from an 0-2 deficit in the best-of-five contest to level at 2-2.

Krishnan, 26, from Madras, rallied from 1-4 down in each of the first two sets in outplaying the 24-year-old Masur.

Earlier, John Fitzgerald had defeated veteran Indian captain Vijay Amritraj 7-5, 6-3, 6-3 to lift Australia's hopes of a comeback triumph.

India became only the third nation to defeat Australia in a Davis Cup match on Australian soil. The United States, on seven occasions, and Britain are the only other two countries to have achieved that feat.

Krishnan, a superb touch player who was a quarterfinalist at this year's U.S. Open, utilised aggressive groundstrokes and proved too consistent and determined for Masur, who seldom appeared at ease during the 125-

minute match in front of a sellout crowd of 6,500.

Krishnan followed in the footsteps of his father, Ramanathan Krishnan, who defeated Brazilian Thomas Koch in the decisive singles of the 1966 Davis Cup semifinal, while Amritraj, 33, will lead India into this year's final 18 years after making his Davis Cup debut.

The Indians advanced to the final despite having only one player, 28th ranked Krishnan, in the top 200 in the world.

"It was unrealistic for this team to have thought about making the final — but we did it," said an ecstatic Amritraj, who plays tennis only part-time and works as an actor in Hollywood.

"We have only one world class player and considering the caliber of the other players it is remarkable to achieve what we have achieved," the captain said. "I don't think any other team in the history of the Davis Cup has

made the final with such lowly ranked players. It was a great team effort, a tremendous feeling. I never had any doubts that Ramesh would win the last match."

Amritraj currently is ranked 257th in the world with Srinivas Vasudevan 209th and Anand Amritraj not even ranked as a singles player.

The Indians led 2-0 after the opening two singles matches Friday, but then lost Saturday's doubles, in which Pat Cash and Peter Doohan defeated Anand Amritraj and Vasudevan.

Australia was without Cash for the singles after the Wimbledon champion injured his right knee in training. Cash believed the injury would not stand up to two long singles matches.

Masur lost both his singles matches against the Indians and his Davis Cup record dropped to 2-6.

"I was relaxed against Wally and I played according to plan," said Krishnan after his decisive win. "It was exciting to play well when it counted. This is the biggest win of my career."

Masur was bitterly disappointed by his form. "Ramesh lifted his game and I

lost concentration," he said. "It slipped away from me, but you can only play as well as you are allowed to play. He played better."

Australian non-playing captain Neale Fraser refused to use Cash's absence from the singles as an excuse for the defeat.

"You've got to go with the players who are available," he said.

Fraser paid tribute to Krishnan.

"He was their star, but it was a consistent all around performance," he said.

The Indians had won only two of their previous eight cup meetings with Australia.

India reached the Davis Cup challenge round in 1966, but lost 4-1 to Australia, and also reached the final in 1974 but withdrew rather than play South Africa.

Australia was aiming to make the Davis Cup final for the 42nd time and to win the event for the third time in five years. It defeated Sweden in the 1983 final in Melbourne.

India will face either Sweden or Spain in the final in December. Sweden holds a 2-1 lead over the Spaniards in the semifinal being held in Barcelona.

Lebanon holds int'l rally despite war

By Paul Bolding
Reuter

BEIRUT — The roar of fast cars screaming along rural roads will replace the thuds of bombs and bullets next weekend when war-torn Lebanon holds an international motor rally.

It has been held annually since 1968, though with several interruptions depending on the intensity of the 12-year-old civil war. His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan once took part.

The three-day Mountain Rally starting on Friday night has attracted 19 foreign entrants undaunted by Lebanon's record of death and destruction in addition to 60 Lebanese cars.

"There is no security risk because the rally is run completely in secure areas... The Lebanese forces (Christian militia) will help us," said rally spokesman Wadid Bachour.

The Lebanese army would also assist the organisers, the automobile and touring club of Lebanon.

mostly ignore the rules and the police," commented one resident.

This year, for the first time, the rally counts for the Middle East championship of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) along with those held in Dubai, Kuwait, Jordan, Oman and Qatar.

Entrants include last year's Middle East champion, Mohammad Bin Sulayem of the United Arab Emirates driving an Opel Manta in the sports cars category, and crews from France, Britain, Sweden and Cyprus.

Swedish champion for 1970-74 Olof Stromberg, asked if he was concerned by Lebanon's reputation for killings and kidnappings, said: "I did not know what I would find but it looks normal."

He said it was his first visit to



Mohammad Bin Sulayem

Lebanon. "Before the rally I will study the roads and the road surfaces. Every rally is a new challenge," he said.

Stromberg, regarded as one of the favourites, said he thought the main challenges would come from Sulayem and Cypriot driver Dini Mavropoulos.

Star cyclist back on road

By Andrew Warshaw
Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ireland — Greg LeMond is back on his bike, lucky to be alive and aiming for a comeback that would rank among the greatest in sports.

A string of setbacks, including a hunting accident that drained half his blood and left 30 shotgun pellets buried in his body, idled the only American ever to win the Tour de France for most of this year and changed some of his feelings toward cycling.

But as he tries to catch up with competitors whom he estimates are 10 times stronger than him at the moment, LeMond has a single goal.

"I'm back to win the Tour de France again," the 1986 winner of cycling's biggest prize said. "Everything I'm doing now is geared to that. If I win any of the other big ones along the way, that's fine, as long as they come with the Tour."

This week, LeMond is competing in the Nissan Classic Tour of Ireland, his first stage race since mid-march, when a bad crash in Italy started his nightmare year.

"I've had about a dozen short races since coming back Aug. 29 but this is my first real test," he said in an interview. "I'm not interested in winning. I've missed about 80 days racing this year and only about 3,500 kilometres in my legs. Everybody else has had about 35,000 kilometres.

"Their level of fitness is so much higher than mine. It would be great just to finish."

LeMond said he would take part in a handful of races in Europe, North America and Mexico before the end of the year. All of them, he said, were preparation for next year's taking the Winner's Jersey on the Champs d'Elysee next July.

This was supposed to be LeMond's season. He started 1987 as the favourite to retain his Tour de France title and add the world championship in Austria later in the summer.

But during the Tirreno-Adriatico race in March, LeMond broke his wrist and collar bone. He went home to California for treatment, missing six weeks of prime-season riding.

Three days before LeMond was to return to Europe, disaster struck again.

The same day the plaster cast was due to be removed from his hand, LeMond was out hunting turkey when he was accidentally shot by his brother-in-law.

LeMond said he lost half his blood and would have died if he

had not been picked up by a rescue helicopter within minutes.

"The doctors had to remove pellets from my liver, kidney and intestines," LeMond said. "I had seven removed from my arm and took some others out myself.

"About 30 are still there, two in my heart lining but most in my back or legs. The doctors say there is no danger of leaving them there. Your body just forms scar tissue and there is no blood circulation around the lead. It should affect my performances."

The shooting put LeMond off the road for another eight weeks. At first, he said, he considered giving up cycling for good.

"I did have doubts in the first weeks afterwards," he said. "I could not have given a darn if I never touched the bike again. The most important thing was to have my health. But then the doctors told me there was no permanent damage and that gave me a tremendous boost."

LeMond was back in training at the end of June but was quickly struck down by an emergency appendectomy July 12.

While there have been no further accidents, LeMond said that resuming training was tougher than expected.

"It was very difficult getting back on the bike," he said. "I'd been off it so long, I had begun to feel great about not training. At first, I had a hard time keeping up with the tourists. It's still difficult. After all, I'm coming back from zero and that needs a lot more discipline."

When he looks back on the year, however, LeMond said

there were several benefits to being out of action for so long. "The doctors had to remove pellets from my liver, kidney and intestines," LeMond said. "I had seven removed from my arm and took some others out myself.

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After that, LeMond hopes to take on the world again, including Irishman Stephen Roche, winner of this year's Tour de France and world champion.

"I'm still one of the youngest riders on the tour and I feel I have the most potential," LeMond said. "I'll bet any amount of money I'll succeed. I still believe I'm better than 99 per cent of the other guys. My prime years are yet to come."

"Ok, I broke my wrist, got shot, had my appendix out. They say everything happens in threes. Everybody has one bad year. This was mine. Now it's over."

Maradona angry with Italian press

Hurricanes beat Seminoles in college football blood feud

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine soccer superstar Diego Maradona has said that if Napoli do not renew his contract for another four years and the Italian press continue to harass him he will leave the Italian champions.

"If Napoli don't renew my contract for four years as I requested and the Italian press continue to harass me like now, at the end of 1989 I'll go and play somewhere else, maybe in Argentina," Maradona told the local semi-official newagency Telam.

The World Cup star told a Telam correspondent in Naples that the press were blaming him for Napoli's defeat against Spain's Real Madrid in the first round of the European Champions Cup.

Napoli lost 3-1 on aggregate after being held to a 1-1 draw at home in Wednesday night's second leg.

Maradona said he had asked for a new four-year contract after his current one expires in 1989 so that he can become a free agent in 1993.

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Do I, in life

U.S. and Canada reach trade agreement

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and Canada forged the framework of a historic trade pact late Saturday, barely beating a midnight deadline, the White House-announced early Sunday.

The president has notified the Congress of his intention to enter into a trade agreement with the government of Canada on Jan. 2, 1988." White House spokesman, Mr. Roman Popaduk, said. "The essential elements have been agreed to and we will release further details on Monday."

Mr. Donald Anderson, the clerk of the House of Representatives, said he was notified minutes before midnight that President Ronald Reagan had sent a message to Mr. Anderson's office informing the House of the basics of the deal.

The agreement will have to be approved in both countries before being ratified.

U.S. authorities had set the midnight deadline for submission of the agreement's framework to Congress.

No details of the agreement were released immediately, but the package taking shape over the last 16 months of negotiations pointed to a phasing out of tariffs, an easing of non-tariff trade bar-

riers and a new method of resolving trade disputes.

"God only knows what we did but I think we did something," said Mr. Peter Murphy, the chief negotiator for the United States.

Treasury Secretary James Baker, who with trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, led the U.S. side of the talks, said the two sides would meet again Monday to work out what he said were housekeeping details.

The two sides had reached a "comprehensive" deal, Mr. Baker said, but he didn't elaborate.

Leading the Canadian side of the talks for the second day in a row were Trade Minister Pat Carney, Finance Minister Michael Wilson and Mr. Derek Burney, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's chief of staff. The chief negotiator for Canada was Mr. Simon Reisman.

The two sides began the day's talks saying there were still major hurdles to overcome but sounding more optimistic than they had since Canada walked out of the formal negotiations 10 days before.

Top-level negotiations resumed Friday after the Mulroney government decided fresh prop-

osals outlined by Mr. Baker showed enough flexibility in the U.S. position to warrant a return to the bargaining table.

Earlier Saturday, Mr. Yeutter had said the two negotiating teams still had much ground to cover — "may be too much, I don't know," but Ms. Carney said she could "see the shape of a deal."

Mr. Mulroney has made free trade with the United States the centerpiece of his economic policy, at one point conceding his neck was on the line over the issue.

Canada and the United States now exchange more than \$150 billion per year in merchandise. More than 70 per cent of Canada's exports go to the United States, and about one-fifth of U.S. exports are sold to Canada.

Ottawa has promoted a free-trade deal as the formula for securing better access to the giant U.S. market, thereby creating hundreds of thousands of jobs.

The push was fuelled, in part, by a rash of U.S. trade actions against imports of Canadian goods such as softwood lumber, cedar shingles and shingles, hogs, fish and potash.

Canada also feared the United

States was moving toward a more protectionist stance in the face of a huge trade deficit with the rest of the world. The U.S. trade deficit with Canada in 1986 was \$13.3 billion.

The Reagan administration viewed a deal with Canada as an important first step in a larger effort to liberalize world trade.

The administration wants an easing of Canada's restrictions on foreign investment, more access to the Canadian market for U.S. banks and brokers and greater protection for U.S. patents, trademarks and copyrights.

It also wants to end Canada's programme of rebating import duties to non-North American car manufacturers who build plants in Canada.

Congress, wary of the initiative from the beginning, now has 90 days to try to influence the shape of a final agreement, which President Reagan must present to Congress by Jan. 3.

Then, Congress will have 60 working days to accept or reject the pact, but will not be able to amend it. Given the congressional calendar of holidays and breaks, officials expect that final vote will not happen until late March or April.

Turks help Iraq boost oil exports

DORTYOL, Turkey (R) — Iraq has boosted its oil exports with the help of Turkish firms which provide road haulage and storage and tanker-loading facilities, Turkish oil industry sources said on Saturday.

Iraq now has five outlets in Turkey's Iskenderun bay, tucked into the Mediterranean's north-eastern corner, including a major pipeline-terminal at Yumurtalik, 40 kilometres east of Dorytol.

This is in line with Iraq's determination to diversify its oil exports channels and bring in additional cash for its war with Iran, which started in September 1980.

The sources, who have worked in the area for more than 10 years, said Iraq was selling crude oil, naphtha, gas oil and fuel oil through makeshift terminals, while the Yumurtalik crude oil operation was running at capacity.

Some oil and oil products were trucked to the area by Turkish-run tankers from the northern Iraqi oil city of Kirkuk, a trip of more than 1,100 kilometres across rugged terrain where autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels sometimes operate.

On Saturday, 28 tanker lorries with Turkish markings were

heading for Iskenderun bay on a 40 kilometre stretch of road leading from the southeast and the Iraqi border.

The sources said the latest terminals served a Soviet-built steel factory at Iskenderun, near the Toros and Sariseki fertiliser plants, and a site operated by Delta Petroleum Products Inc, about five kilometres south of Dorytol.

Both terminals have tanker-loading jetties. The Delta operation has four sealines stretching about two kilometres into the bay where the water is 15 metres deep.

The sources said an average of 14 foreign vessels a month loaded at the Delta terminal, which is owned and operated by Turks.

At least 12 new storage tanks with a total capacity estimated at over one million barrels were seen at the Delta site, which the sources said had started crude oil loadings in addition to fuel and gas oil and naphtha.

Storage tanks now dot the Iskenderun bay coast, formerly a

sleepy backwater, and the sources said demand for storage facilities had risen sharply in recent months.

Some firms have asked Turkey's state-owned oil pipeline corporation Botas for storage space for Iraqi oil shuttled by road from Kirkuk.

Botas operates the Turkish section of parallel pipelines bringing crude oil from Kirkuk, which is loaded onto vessels across a two kilometre long jetty at Yumurtalik.

The two pipelines, with a total capacity of 1.5 million barrels per day, form Iraq's major export outlet following the closure of its Gulf ports and a pipeline across Syria to the Mediterranean early in the war with Iran.

Iraq also exports oil through a pipeline across Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea.

A senior Iraqi official was quoted in Turkey last month as saying a link across Jordan to its Red Sea port of Aqaba was under study and would probably go ahead.

British official takes new look at welfare

LONDON (AP) — A member of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's cabinet has called for a reappraisal of Britain's cradle-to-grave welfare system.

Mr. John Moore, social services secretary, said a new climate of opinion was needed about state welfare that would encourage people to be less dependent on government handouts and reduce the government's role.

Mr. Moore, who has been described as a possible successor to Mrs. Thatcher, told a political conference of the ruling Conservative Party that the government had no intention of dismantling Britain's welfare system, implemented in 1947.

But he said Britain had changed in the past 40 years from the days when no one had a television receiver and the average man owned only one pair of trousers.

Mr. Moore said, citing a marketing survey.

"Life has changed, needs have changed, people's expectations have changed, and it's necessary for what we call our welfare state to change as well," Mr. Moore said.

He said welfare payments should be designed as short-term measures to relieve distress and claimants should be encouraged to eventually help themselves.

The Sunday Times said Mr. Moore drew up his speech after an unpublicized visit to the United States.

Mr. Moore's ideas were sharply criticised by Mr. Neil Kinnock, leader of the opposition Labour Party, who said the speech had been "exhumed from history."

"When support is given to the very rich, it's called an incentive, but when it's given to the poor, it's described as dependency," Mr. Kinnock said.

Malaysia to diversify energy sources

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia, one of Asia's major oil producers, plans to develop other fuel sources to guarantee energy supplies until the end of the century, a senior official has said.

Mr. Dato Murad Hashim, a senior vice-president at the state oil company Petronas, said an expected fall in crude output in the 1990s meant other energy sources had to be developed.

In a speech to an oil and gas conference in the Canadian town of Calgary, Mr. Murad said Malaysia planned major natural gas and hydro-electricity pro-

jects.

"Malaysia is endowed with a significant energy resource base which is still largely untapped," he said in the speech.

Energy policy would be based on producing oil, natural gas and hydro-power and importing coal, he said.

He estimated natural gas reserves at 1.48 trillion cubic metres and hydro-power potential at 29,000 megawatts.

Natural gas deposits in oil equivalent are over three times larger than oil reserves of about three billion barrels, he said. He

Nigeria posts high foreign exchange gap

LAGOS (OPECNA) — Foreign exchange inflows recorded by Nigeria's central bank in the first half of this year amounted to \$2.99 billion compared to an outflow of \$4.02 billion during the same period, Nigeria's minister of finance, Dr. Chu Okongwu, has said.

The minister told a news conference here while appraising the country's structural adjustment programme (SAP), that in the corresponding period of 1986, foreign exchange inflow amounted to \$3.91 billion compared to an outflow of \$2.60 billion.

"The deterioration in the balance of payments has arisen from the decline in revenue from oil, as the full effect of the increase in petroleum export prices was not felt in the first half of 1987," the minister explained.

Dr. Okongwu said that the federal government had intensified its negotiations with overseas creditors for the rescheduling of the country's external debt which he put at \$19.7 billion.

The negotiations with the London Club of creditor banks, the minister said, commenced during the second quarter of 1986, while those with the official creditors in the Paris Club began in December last year.

He said that while agreement was reached with the London Club's steering committee to reschedule repayments on medium and long-term debts owed them, final agreements had not been signed as the details were still being negotiated.

The minister accused some of the member-banks of causing delay in reaching an early agreement through "their recalcitrant attitude."

GIC to invest in 14 projects

DOHA (OPECNA) — The Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) has agreed to contribute towards the implementation of 14 projects, Sheikh Khalid Al Fayed, executive director of the Manama-based body said in a news-paper interview.

The GIC has an authorised capital of \$2.1 billion and a paid-up capital of \$540 million.

Sheikh Al Fayed said the corporation was planning to carry out a \$127 million project for the maintenance of aircraft bodies in Saudi Arabia, while a second project worth \$152.5 million will involve aircraft engine maintenance.

The GIC also intended to set up a steel bar manufacturing plant in Saudi Arabia.

The corporation, he told the local newspaper, Al Rayah, was studying the possibility of contributing to a \$16 million Qatari dairy and meat project which was being financed by the government of Qatar and the Arab Company for the Development of Animal Wealth.

The Stars impel; they do not compel. What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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U.S. Exim Bank foresees extended losses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's Export-Import Bank (Exim Bank) will continue to lose money through the mid-1990s because of competition with other countries in subsidising loans, President John A. Bohn Jr. predicted in the bank's annual report.

Mr. Bohn did not name the countries here in the report. But he and his predecessor, Mr. William H. Draper III, have repeatedly referred to Japan, France, Britain and Canada as major competing countries.

He said that while agreement was reached with the London Club's steering committee to reschedule repayments on medium and long-term debts owed them, final agreements had not been signed as the details were still being negotiated.

The minister accused some of the member-banks of causing delay in reaching an early agreement through "their recalcitrant attitude."

For the year that ended Sept. 30, 1986, the bank lost \$32.9 million, down from the previous year's \$34.2 million. At that point it had \$32.2 billion on loan, down from \$35 billion.

Most figures for this year are not yet available. For the five

years through 1986, losses totalled \$1.4 billion.

"The principal cause of these losses can be traced to the mid-1970s when Exim Bank was forced to charge low fixed interest rates to meet competition from foreign credit agencies while rates soared on its borrowings," Mr. Bohn said.

At the end of July 1987, the average cost of the bank's borrowings was still 11.7 per cent a year, while it was collecting interest at an average rate of only 8.3 per cent.

Mr. Bohn also predicted that in two years or less the bank's reserves of \$1.8 billion will have been used up. He suggested that Congress might then be asked for a new appropriation, or that the Federal Financing Bank, which lends to the Exim Bank, might be asked to help refund its loans to Exim at a lower rate of interest.

Earlier this month the General Accounting Office, the investiga-

tive arm of Congress, called Exim's financial reports misleading. It argued that the bank's accounts should already show a deficit as high as \$3 billion because of uncollectible loans, such as to Cuba before President Fidel Castro took over.

The bank says its loans and guarantees supported \$6.4 billion worth of U.S. exports in the year that ended Sept. 30, 1986. It estimated that each billion dollars worth of exports generates about 25,000 jobs for Americans.

The report cited a company in Alabama that the bank helped to ship water pipes to Kuwait, aid to General Electric in selling U.S. locomotives to Kenya, and a subsidised loan that enabled Control Data Corp. to get into the Indian market for high-technology computers.

The Indian deal was made against competition from C.I.I. Bull, supported by the French government.

He said welfare payments should be designed as short-term measures to relieve distress and claimants should be encouraged to eventually help themselves.

The Sunday Times said Mr. Moore drew up his speech after an unpublicized visit to the United States.

Mr. Moore's ideas were sharply criticised by Mr. Neil Kinnock, leader of the opposition Labour Party, who said the speech had been "exhumed from history."

"When support is given to the very rich, it's called an incentive, but when it's given to the poor, it's described as dependency," Mr. Kinnock said.

Peanuts



Mutt'n Jeff



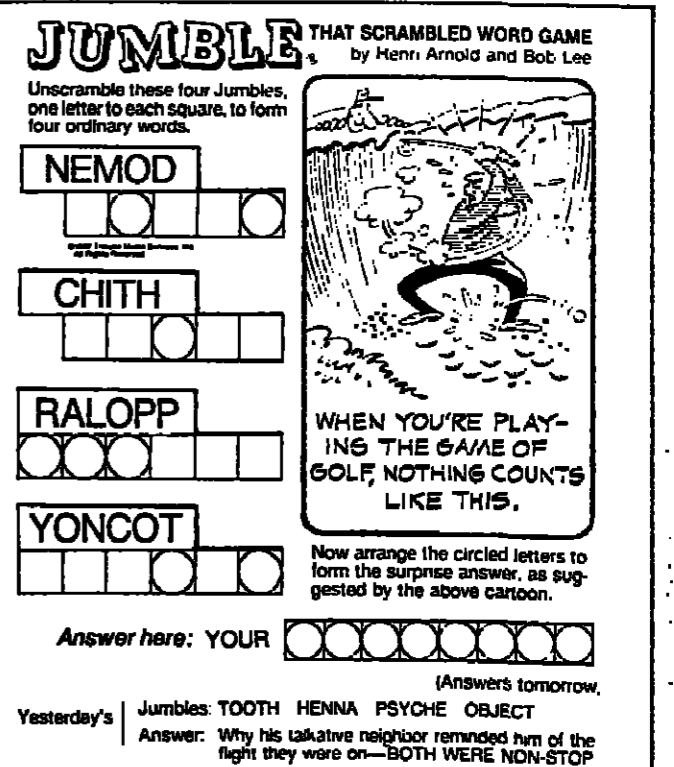
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.



JUMBLE



Peking says foreigners involved in Lhasa violence

PEKING (R) — China on Sunday accused two foreigners of involvement in Tibet's worst officially reported violence for more than a decade, in which at least six people were killed and 19 police seriously injured.

In its first detailed account of Thursday's riot in the Tibetan capital Lhasa, the People's Daily said the foreigners were among the crowd which burnt down a police station and attacked policemen with stones and bricks.

Foreigners who witnessed the riots said six people were shot dead by police and described hand-to-hand fighting between police and monks who had led a demonstration calling for independence from China.

One American tourist said nine people — three monks, three Tibetan men, two women and a child — had been shot dead.

The People's Daily did not identify the two foreigners accused of involvement in the violence. The Foreign Ministry in Peking declined immediate comment on who they were and whether they had been detained.

The U.S. embassy in Peking said it had asked China to confirm reports that two Americans had been arrested after the riot.

Communication links between Lhasa and the Chinese capital remained cut on Sunday. A night curfew was clamped on Lhasa earlier, with notices in hotels warning guests that they would go to the streets after 10 p.m. at their peril.

Next Wednesday, Oct. 7, is the anniversary of Chinese soldiers entering Tibet in 1950, and there

are fears of further separatist disturbances.

The People's Daily blamed the riots on people who attacked a police station where the alleged ringleaders of the anti-Chinese demonstration were being detained.

It said the crowd trapped 30 police inside the station, snatched a machine-gun from a policeman and attacked fire engines called to deal with vehicles set on fire by the demonstrators.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) disputed travellers' reports that Chinese police fired on the protesters Thursday. It blamed the violence on the Dalai Lama, the Tibetans' spiritual leader.

The Dalai Lama, living in exile in India, condemned the killings, and Tibetan exiles marched in Indian cities including New Delhi and in Bern, Switzerland.

The Chinese agency's account on Sunday said scores of people took part in the protest Thursday. Witnesses said the crowd numbered 2,000.

"Among the rioters were two foreigners who were waving their hands, shouting and egg-throwing on the people around to attack the police," the NCNA report said.

An Asian diplomat said the riot had come as a bitter blow to the Chinese leadership which has poured money into Tibet, one of

Famous French dramatist Anouilh dies at 77

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (Agencies) — French dramatist Jean Anouilh died on Saturday in hospital in Lausanne, aged 77, a member of his family said on Sunday.

Anouilh, known for plays such as "Eurydice" and "Antigone" in which he reinterpreted Greek myths, died of a heart attack after two days in hospital, she said.

Anouilh died Saturday in the Vandois University Hospital Centre in Lausanne, said the family member.

The author's works, written over a career that spanned more than five decades, have been translated in 27 languages. At times, several of his plays were running simultaneously in Paris theatres.

Among Anouilh's best known "black" comedies was "Antigone" — a modern-day version of the classical Greek tragedy that pits the idealism and purity of youth against hard-nosed reality and pragmatism.

The rebels said they planned to put on the bargaining table an 18-point plan, first unveiled last May, that calls for an end to government use of bombing and long-range artillery in return for rebels suspending attacks on economic targets. Both sides would give up the use of land mines.

Insurgent leaders said they hoped the talks would last more than one day, but Mr. Duarte said that "if after 12 or 14 hours we find there are irreconcilable differences, I will not feel like continuing the discussion."

Mr. Duarte told reporters that not only two previous public meetings in 1984 but "something like 10 or 11" secret sessions between the government and the rebels have left both sides still far apart on major issues.

The last public meeting ended Nov. 30, 1984.

Guillermo Ungo, who will take part in the talks as the rebels' top political leader, has said he hoped advances could be made on lesser issues that would lead to a continuing dialogue and eventually peace.

"The important thing for these talks on Sunday is to make concrete and specific advances, even if they have to be partial advances," Mr. Ungo said in a telephone interview from Panama

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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FOLLOW THE WINDING ROAD

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ A K 7
♦ Q 6 3
♦ A J 5
♦ Q 7

WEST
4 4 6
* ♦ 10 8 4 3
* ♦ A K 10 9 4
* ♦ 9 6 4 3
* ♦ K J 6 2
* ♦ 8 5 3

SOUTH
* ♦ 9 5 2
* ♦ 7 4
* ♦ K Q 8 2
* ♦ A 10 9 4

The bidding:
East South West North

Pass Pass 2 ♦ Dble

Pass 4 ♦ Pass Pass

Pass
Opening lead: King of ♦

Opening bids that describe your distribution are well and good if your side buys the hand. But if you end up defending, you might have given declarer valuable clues to playing the hand. Consider this hand from the Mixed Pair Championship at the recent World Bridge Olympiad in Miami.

After South passed a hand that would have opened, West's two hearts showed an opening bid with at least five hearts and four clubs. After North's takeout dou-

ble, South wasted no time in bidding the full value of his hand.

West led the king of hearts, then shifted to his singleton diamond. At the helm was the Denny, and he made short work of the hand. He won the diamond in the closed hand and led a club toward the queen. West grabbed his king and exited safely enough with a club to the queen.

When West followed to both the ace and king of trumps, his hand was virtually an open book. His bid had announced at least nine cards in hearts and clubs, and he had already shown up with two trumps and a diamond. Therefore, only one of his cards was unknown, and Denny didn't much care what it was. He led a trump from dummy and confidently finessed the nine. When that held, he could claim his contract.

Actually, the contract was secure even if West's unknown card turned out to be the trump ten. While he would then have been able to win the trump trick, he would have been end played. A club return would have been into declarer's A-10, and a heart return would set up dummy's queen. (If West returns the ace of hearts, declarer ruffs and can get to the table with a diamond to cash the queen of hearts.)

The order requiring his detention until trial noted that the government has testimony which indicates that this defendant is responsible for the assassination of Colombia's minister of

justice in April 1984; for the armed attack on Colombia's supreme court building in 1986, resulting in the death of 14 justices; for the assassination of two newspaper editors in Colombia in November and December of 1986, who openly opposed his lifestyle, and for the shooting of the Colombian ambassador to Hungary on Jan. 13, 1987.

An 11-count indictment filed in 1981 charged Lebeda, 38, with conspiracy, cocaine importation, operating a continuing criminal enterprise and eight counts of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute.

Since his Feb. 4 arrest at a jungle hideout following a shoot-out with Colombian soldiers and his extradition to the United States, Lebeda has been held in federal prisons.

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Laurel and Enrile said joining hands

MANILA (Agencies) — Vice-president Salvador Laurel and Senator Juan Ponce Enrile were trying to form a new political alliance to oppose President Corazon Aquino, a major newspaper reported Sunday.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, quoting opposition sources, said Mr. Laurel would head the coalition, which would include elements of his UNIDO party, Mr. Enrile's Grand Alliance for Democracy and moderates within the New Society Movement of ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

According to the report, the two political groups reached an agreement in principle to forge such an alliance during a meeting a few days ago in a Manila suburb.

Such a move has been widely predicted by Philippine commentators since Mr. Laurel announced he would no longer serve in the cabinet and later launched a campaign to expose alleged "left-leaning officials" in the Aquino government.

The two leaders agreed that the coalition will be headed by Mr. Laurel, the newspaper said. "A political platform as well as plans for the short and long term plans shall also be drafted."

Mr. Laurel, who had served as foreign secretary, resigned from the cabinet last month because of "fundamental differences" over the battle against communist rebels and because of bitterness at having been excluded from decision-making by the president's inner circle.

Mr. Aquino fired Mr. Enrile as defence minister last Nov. 23 after the government said it foiled a coup plot by his followers. They included Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, Mr. Enrile's former security chief and leader of the Aug. 28 mutiny.

Col. Honasan, in hiding since staging the abortive coup, has said he will consider peace talks with Mrs. Aquino's government if it launches political and military reforms.

In an interview with the Manila newspaper Tempo published on Sunday, Col. Honasan said troops loyal to him were capable of creating "a disturbance of the same or greater magnitude" than the Aug. 28 revolt.

He added that the revolt by about 2,000 soldiers, in which more than 50 people were killed, was an attempt to make Mrs. Aquino "see the light." The rebels refrained from seizing the presidential palace in case she was killed, he added.

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